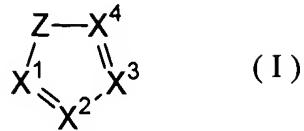


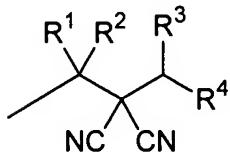
Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A malononitrile compound represented by the formula (I):



wherein any one of X^1 , X^2 , X^3 and X^4 is CR^{100} ,

(wherein R^{100} represents a group represented by the formula:



wherein R^1 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^2 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, cyano or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C4-C5 cycloalkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

or R^3 and R^4 are taken together to represent C2-C6 alkanediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen or C4-C6 alkenediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen),

the other three of X^1 , X^2 , X^3 and X^4 each represent nitrogen or CR^5 , provided that one to three of X^1 , X^2 , X^3 and X^4 represent nitrogen,

Z represents oxygen, sulfur or NR^6 ,

R^5 independently represents halogen, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, mercapto, formyl, SF_5 , carboxyl, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl

optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with halogen or one or more C1-C3 alkyl, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C6 alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkoxycarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $NR^{10}R^{11}$, a group represented by $C(=X^5)NR^{12}R^{13}$, a group represented by $(CH_2)_mQ$, a group represented by $C(=NOR^{17})R^{18}$, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen, R^6 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, (C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen)C1-C3 alkyl, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C6 alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkoxycarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(=X^5)NR^{12}R^{13}$, a group represented by $(CH_2)_mQ$, or hydrogen, and when two CR^5 , or CR^5 and NR^6 are adjacent to each other, they may be taken together to represent C2-C6 alkanediyl or C4-C6 alkenediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, in which at least one methylene group forming the alkanediyl or the alkenediyl may be substituted with oxygen, sulfur or NR^7 , R^7 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C6 alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkoxycarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^{10} and R^{11} each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, (C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen)C1-C3 alkyl, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C6 alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkoxycarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, or the group represented by $NR^{10}R^{11}$ is 1-pyrrolyl,

R^{12} and R^{13} each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $(CH_2)_mQ$, or hydrogen, or R^{12} and R^{13} are taken together to represent C2-C6 alkanediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen or C4-C6 alkenediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^{17} and R^{18} each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $(CH_2)_mQ$, or hydrogen,

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, (C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen)C1-C3 alkyl, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C6 alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkoxycarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(=X^5)NR^{12}R^{13}$, a group represented by $(CH_2)_mQ$, trialkylsilyl, or hydrogen,

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally

substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

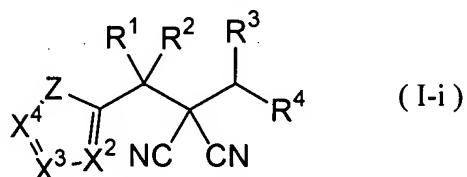
Q represents aryl optionally substituted with R¹⁴ n times,

R¹⁴ independently represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C6 alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkoxy carbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or halogen,

m and n each represent an integer of 0 to 5, and

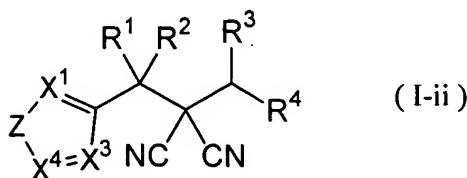
X⁵ represents oxygen or sulfur.

2. (Original) The malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (I-i):



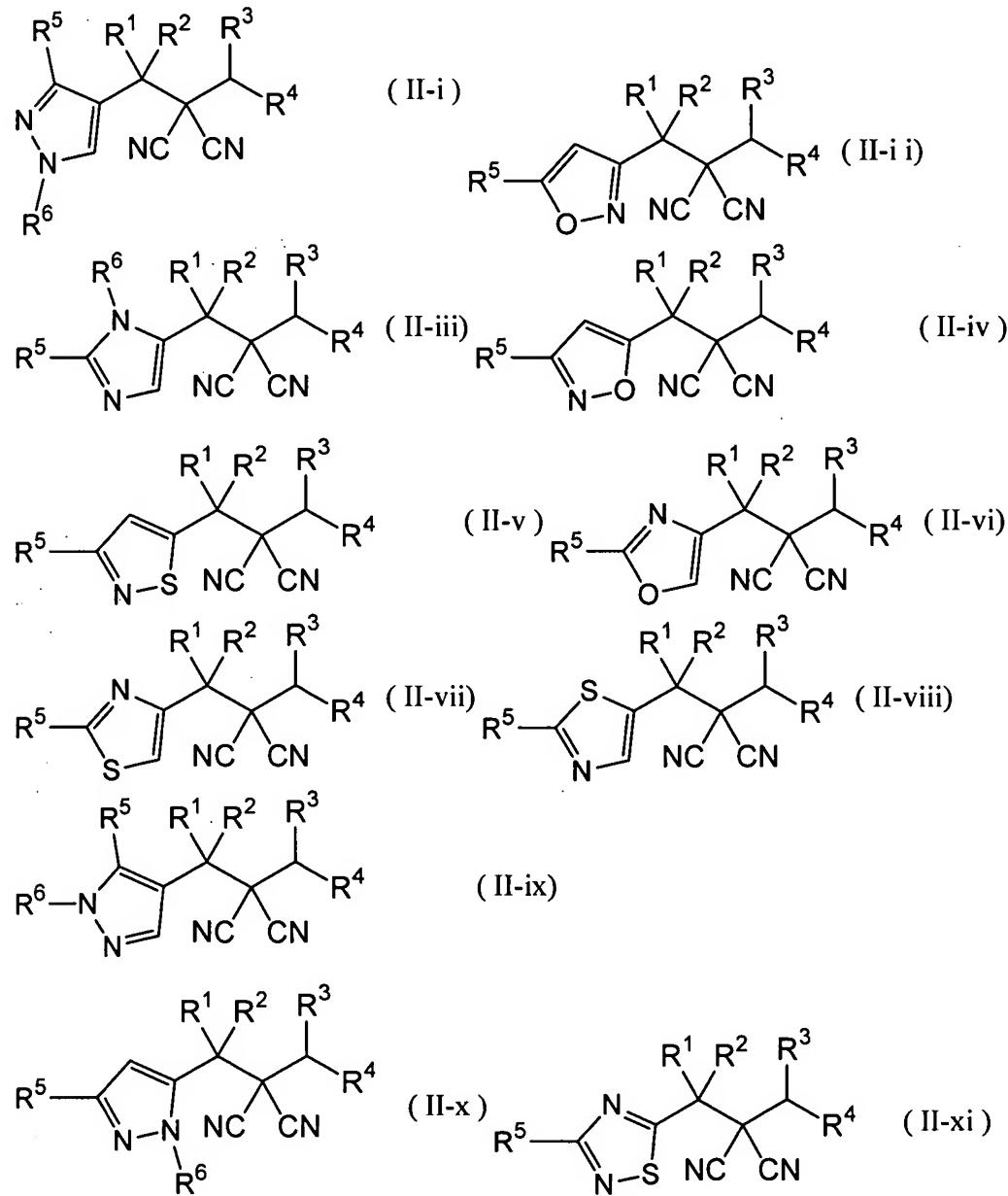
wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and Z are as defined in claim 1, one to three of X², X³ and X⁴ represent nitrogen and when one or two of X², X³ and X⁴ represent nitrogen, the other two or one represents CR⁵, and R⁵ is as defined in claim 1.

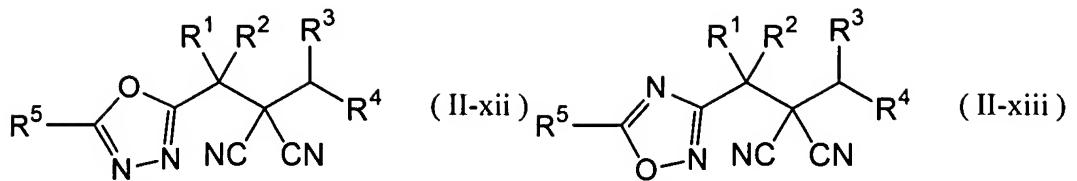
3. (Original) The malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (I-ii):



wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and Z are as defined in claim 1, one to three of X^1 , X^3 and X^4 represent nitrogen and when one or two of X^1 , X^3 and X^4 represent nitrogen, the other two or one represents CR^5 , and R^5 is as defined in claim 1.

4. (Original) The malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by any one of the formula (II-i) to (II-xiii):





wherein R^1 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^2 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, cyano or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C4-C5 cycloalkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

or R^3 and R^4 are taken together to represent C2-C6 alkanediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen or C4-C6 alkenediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^5 represents halogen, cyano, nitro, formyl, SF_5 , C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen or one or more C1-C3 alkyl, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C6 alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $\text{C}(\text{OR}^{19})\text{R}^{20}\text{R}^{21}$, or hydrogen,

R^6 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R¹⁹ represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and R²⁰ and R²¹ each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.

5. (Original) The malononitrile compound according to claim 4, wherein R¹ is hydrogen,

R² is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R³ and R⁴ each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

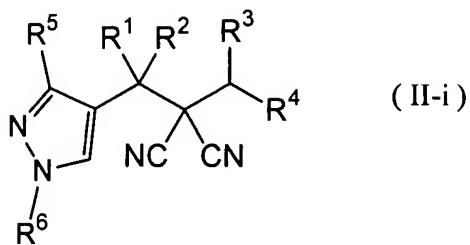
R⁵ is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by C(OR¹⁹)R²⁰R²¹, or haydrogen,

R⁶ is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R¹⁹ represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R²⁰ and R²¹ each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.

6. (Original) The malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (II-i):



wherein R¹ represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R² represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, cyano or hydrogen,

R³ and R⁴ each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C4-C5 cycloalkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

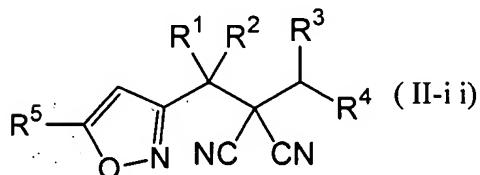
or R³ and R⁴ are taken together to represent C2-C6 alkanediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen or C4-C6 alkenediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R⁵ represents halogen, cyano, nitro, formyl, SF₅, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen or one or more C1-C3 alkyl, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C6 alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more

halogen a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen, R^6 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

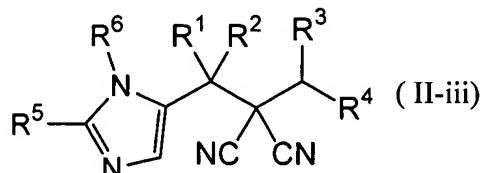
R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.

7. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (II-ii):



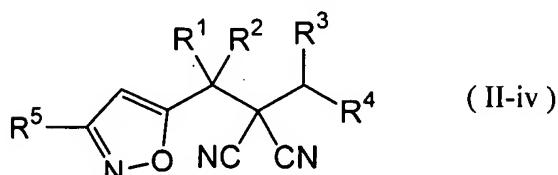
wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are as defined in claim 6.

8. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (II-iii):



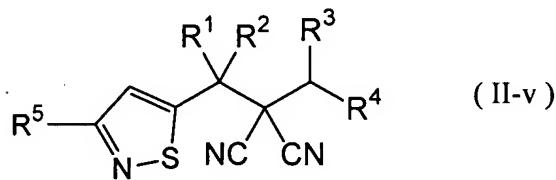
wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are as defined in claim 6.

9. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (II-iv):



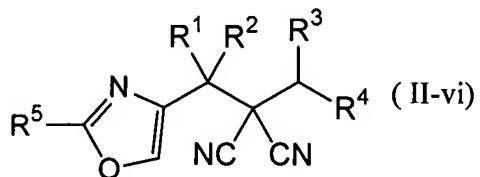
wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are as defined in claim 6.

10. (Currently amended) The A malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (II-v):



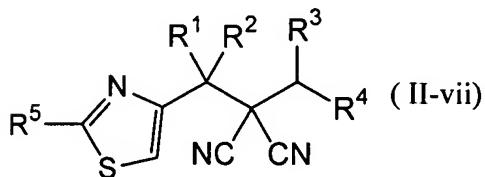
wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are as defined in claim 6.

11. (Currently amended) The A malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (II-vi):



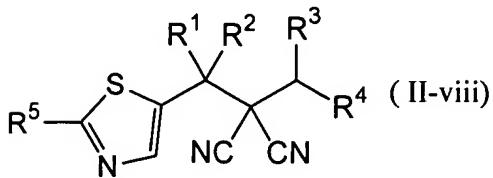
wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are as defined in claim 6.

12. (Currently amended) The A malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (II-vii):



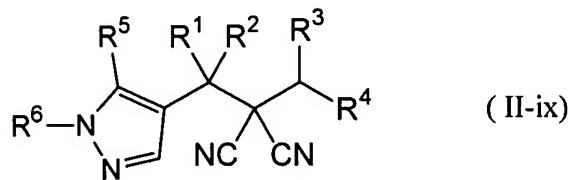
wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are as defined in claim 6.

13. (Currently amended) The A malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (II-viii):



wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are as defined in claim 6.

14. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A malononitrile compound according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula (II-ix):



wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are as defined in claim 6.

15. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to ~~any one of claims 6 to 14~~ claim 6, wherein R¹ is hydrogen, R² is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, R³ and R⁴ each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, R⁵ is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by C(OR¹⁹)R²⁰R²¹, or hydrogen, R⁶ is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, R¹⁹ represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and R²⁰ and R²¹ each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

16. (Original) A pesticidal composition, which comprises an effective amount of the malononitrile compound according to claim 1 and an inert carrier.

17. (Original) A method for controlling a pest, which comprises applying an effective amount of the malononitrile compound according to claim 1 to said pest or a place where said pest inhabits.

18. (Original) A use of the malononitrile compound according to claim 1 as an active ingredient of a pesticidal composition.

19. (New) The malononitrile compound according to claim 7, wherein R¹ is hydrogen,
R² is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,
R³ and R⁴ each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,
R⁵ is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by C(OR¹⁹)R²⁰R²¹, or hydrogen,
R⁶ is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,
R¹⁹ represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and
R²⁰ and R²¹ each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

20. (New) The malononitrile compound according to claim 8, wherein R¹ is hydrogen,
R² is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,
R³ and R⁴ each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R⁵ is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by C(OR¹⁹)R²⁰R²¹, or hydrogen,

R⁶ is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,
R¹⁹ represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and
R²⁰ and R²¹ each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.

21. (New) The malononitrile compound according to claim 9, wherein R¹ is hydrogen,

R² is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,
R³ and R⁴ each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,
R⁵ is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by C(OR¹⁹)R²⁰R²¹, or hydrogen,

R⁶ is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,
R¹⁹ represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R²⁰ and R²¹ each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.

22. (New) The malononitrile compound according to claim 10, wherein R¹ is hydrogen,

R² is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R³ and R⁴ each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R⁵ is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by C(OR¹⁹)R²⁰R²¹, or hydrogen,

R⁶ is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R¹⁹ represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R²⁰ and R²¹ each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.

23. (New) The malononitrile compound according to claim 11, wherein R¹ is hydrogen,

R² is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R³ and R⁴ each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R⁵ is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-

C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanly substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.

24. (New) The malononitrile compound according to claim 12, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanly substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.

25. (New) The malononitrile compound according to claim 13, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,
 R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5
alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,
 R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6
cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally
substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one
or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-
C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl
optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally
substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or
hydrogen,
 R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,
 R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5
alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and
 R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more
halogen,or hydrogen.

26. (New) The malononitrile compound according to claim 14, wherein R^1 is
hydrogen,
 R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,
 R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5
alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,
 R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6
cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally
substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one
or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-
C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl
optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally
substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or
hydrogen,
 R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.